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to be over and others under-exposed. It is only by taking a series of consecutive photographs of varying exposures, which should be confined rather to very small lunar areas, that we can finally hope to obtain a copy true to nature. In the same manner in which we succeed in photographing the dark solar spots on the bright face of the sun, we should also be enabled to obtain the dark terraced lines on the lighter walls, heretofore referred to, or the fine black rills surrounded by bright light, if the exposure of the plate be properly reduced. The final decision in this matter, however, will depend upon experiment. Although a photographic representation of the moon, in spite of the most excellent results of the Lick Observatory, leaves much to be desired in point of strength and clearness, as particularly apparent in studying the greater enlargements, it yet furnishes us a wonderfully beautiful relief of considerable expanse, which can *never* be retained and depicted with equal truth to nature by the most skillful draughtsman, on account of the great mass of visible objects and the rapid change of lunar shadows; and at the same time it gives an astonishingly accurate detail of individual portions, which for the control and revision of present lunar charts becomes of the *utmost* value to the selenographer.

PRAGUE, July 6th, 1891.

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NOTE TO PROF. WEINEK'S PAPER, BY EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

This is not the place to say how great an impulse has been given to the study of the moon by the investigations which Professor WEINEK has undertaken upon the Lick Observatory negatives. I desire, however, to say one word, in addition to what has already been said, upon the very important matter of reproducing the negatives, or drawings from the negatives, so that they can be published in large editions. This matter has engaged the attention of Professor WEINEK and myself for about two years. It is comparatively easy to find new features, and old features in new relations, upon our negatives of the moon; and it is easy to show these to any one who can study the original negatives or glass copies of them. It is, however, extremely difficult to reproduce the negatives in a large number of copies, so that any reader can follow a description. The most satisfactory method *theoretically* is to enlarge the original negatives by photography and to make silver prints from the enlarged negatives. This method has not been practicable for various reasons. It is very difficult,

for example, to obtain 1000 silver prints from a professional photographer which shall all be satisfactory. We have therefore tried various photo-mechanical, lithographic and other means of reproducing either the original plates, or enlargements from them. A specimen of the most careful lithographic work is given in the present paper. The best phototype reproduction which I have been able to obtain is given in the *Century Magazine* for July, 1891. No one of these plates does justice to the original from which it was copied—neither to the original negative nor to Professor WEINEK's exquisite drawings. And everything hitherto published must be regarded as tentative only.

We are, however, now in a position, to reproduce such originals in an adequate and entirely satisfactory manner.

Through the interest of Professor WEINEK and by the kindness of the Chief of the Imperial Institute of Military Geography, of Vienna, the Institute has consented to reproduce the drawings by *heliogravure*. Some specimens have already been received and they show conclusively that the question of reproducing such work is solved. It is hoped to go on with these studies of the moon as rapidly as possible through the co-operation of Professor WEINEK and the Lick Observatory.

MOUNT HAMILTON, October 1, 1891.

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ESTRELLAS FUGACES, BÓLIDOS Y AEROLITOS, ESTUDIO POR EL  
DR. JESÚS MUÑOZ TÉBAR, (Caracas, 1891, 8vo, pp. 27.)

[Abstract by the Author.]\*

"An essay presented by the author to the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, as a membership contribution.

"The essay begins by a succinct historical description, which, brief as it is, touches every important point studied and meditated upon during the present century concerning shooting stars, bolides and aerolites, and eventually lands on the explanation of the present cometary theory.

"Then it goes on exposing the principal incidents which have been observed in connection with the appearance of said meteors, and presents a series of very grave objections against the present

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\* Dr. TÉBAR has printed in Caracas, under the date of August 25, 1891, a pamphlet in the Spanish language with the above title. On page 2 of the pamphlet is an abstract in English which is here reprinted.